

Easy Ways to Save Water

- Turn off the faucet while washing, brushing teeth or shaving.
- Take shorter showers.
- Install high efficiency toilets and showerheads, as well as water flow restrictors.
- Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.



- Wash full laundry and dish loads.
- Check toilets, pipes and faucets for leaks.
- Check sprinkler systems and timing devices to ensure they are operating properly.
- Install a rain sensor that will shut off your sprinkler system when it rains.
- Use a household timer to remind you to shut off your sprinklers if you don't have an automatic timer.
- Don't use the hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. Use a broom.
- Install an automatic hose shut-off nozzle.

The “average” Lee County Water Utilities customer uses approximately **130 gallons of water per day.**

Year-Round Water Conservation Benefits

- Reduces wasteful habits
- Smart thing to do and saves money
- Helps stretch water supplies through drier months
- Helps avoid water shortage mandatory restrictions

For more information:

Lee County Utilities

www.lee-county.com

Water Restrictions Hotline: 239-274-2547

South Florida Water Management District

www.sfwmd.gov/conserve

Water Conservation Hotline 800.662.8876



LEE COUNTY
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

sfwmd.gov



...water conservation starts in your own backyard!



Florida's Water
It's Worth Saving

MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT!

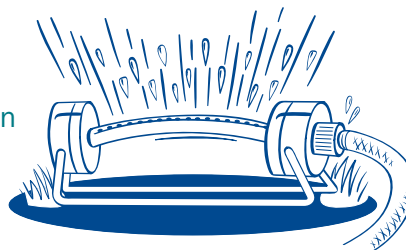
Rainfall is Southwest Florida's primary source for replenishing our limited freshwater supply. With 2006 and early 2007 rainfall levels far below average, water conservation is critical. The natural groundwater system is interconnected at shallow sub-surface layers and in deep aquifers, making it important that everyone follow the water restrictions in effect. This includes residents and businesses drawing irrigation water from canals, lakes and wells.

Lee County, in partnership with the South Florida Water Management District, is calling upon all residents and business owners to help conserve water and protect our environment. By practicing simple water saving measures and becoming more aware of the need to save water, everyone can make a difference. Start conserving today, and encourage your friends and family to do the same because our water is worth saving!

For information on specific water restrictions in effect in your neighborhood, please visit www.sfwmd.gov/conserve

How to "Drought-Proof" Your Lawn

- Water your lawn between the hours of 4-8 a.m. to reduce evaporation.
- Water lawns no more than once weekly in the winter and twice weekly in the summer.
- Water only when lawn shows signs of wilt.
- Don't water before, during or after rainfall.
- Keep mower blades sharp and raise the blade to the highest setting.
- Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn and not on paved areas.
- Xeriscape (landscape) with native, drought-resistant plants, grasses, shrubs and trees.
- Use mulch to retain soil moisture.



Approximately 50 percent of all available drinking water is used outside, often wastefully, due to excessive watering of lawns and gardens.

Other Ways To Save!

As the population of Lee County keeps growing, the demand for water keeps increasing. To help lower demands of potable water for irrigation, in 2005, Lee County passed an ordinance issuing year round water restrictions. Even with the current and year round water restrictions in place, there are still many ways that you can conserve water, from taking shorter showers to shutting off the water while brushing your teeth – it adds up! Remember, by conserving water you are not only helping the environment, but you will be saving money on your monthly bill.

If you have any questions regarding the water restrictions or to report a watering restriction violation, call (239) 274-2547 during normal business hours for assistance.

The easiest way to save water is to simply turn off your automatic sprinkler system and operate your system manually!

In addition to conserving water, reducing irrigation helps to:

- Reduce runoff of fertilizer and pesticides
- Reduce soil erosion
- Lower energy costs
- Reduce plant diseases